

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

5 1. A miniature electrical connector comprising:

an electrically insulting housing having a front end and a rear end displaced
along a longitudinal axis;

10 an electrical contact-receiving aperture in said housing arrayed parallel to said
longitudinal axis;

a displaceable locking tongue in said electrical contact receiving aperture;

15 a flexible gasket positioned at said rear end of said housing, said flexible
gasket having a contact receiving gasket aperture;

20 a gasket retainer affixed to said rear end of said housing, said gasket retainer
having an electrical contact receiving aperture therein, said gasket retainer electrical
contact receiving aperture having a given cross-sectional one-way footprint;

25 an electrical contact positioned in said housing aperture, said electrical contact
having said given cross-sectional one-way footprint, whereby only a single orientation
of said contact in said gasket retainer electrical contact receiving aperture is
permitted, said contact being retained in said electrical contact receiving aperture by
said locking tongue when said contact is fully inserted therein; and

a displaceable locking tongue disabler associated with said front end.

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2. The miniature electrical connector of Claim 1 wherein: said gasket retainer has a plurality of electrical receiving apertures, at least some of said apertures having said given cross-sectional one-way footprints oriented 180° from others of said apertures.

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3. The miniature electrical connector of Claim 1 wherein: said front end is provided with electrical contact stops.

4. The miniature electrical connector of Claim 1 wherein: said electrical contact is a female contact having a hollow, male contact receiving portion of a given cross-sectional area and a wire receiving portion spaced therefrom, said wire receiving portion having a second cross-sectional area that is smaller than said given cross-sectional area.

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15 5. An electrical connector comprising:

an electrically insulating housing having a front end and a back end displaced along a longitudinal axis

20 an electrical contact-receiving aperture in said housing arrayed parallel to said longitudinal axis;

said back end further including a contact receiving entrance having a given cross-sectional, one-way footprint and having a given length "L" along said longitudinal axis; and

25 an electrical contact positioned in said contact receiving aperture, said electrical contact having said given, cross-sectional, one-way footprint and at least a portion of its longitudinal length "L1" sufficient to retain engagement with said contact receiving entrance until said contact enters said electrical contact receiving aperture in said insulating housing.

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